

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

December 9, 2014

Child sex trafficking is a growing crime across California. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has taken a strong leadership role to raise awareness in our region and increase the services we provide to the true victims of this heinous crime.

While we are making progress in serving the victim, we must turn our focus to the so-called “demand” side of this issue. What happens now is absolutely outrageous: there are little or no consequences for the degenerates who buy sex with girls as young as 10 years old. This is an act tantamount to rape of a minor. And the young children they exploit pay the ultimate price with their innocence.

We have taken strong steps to bring an end to this despicable industry. Thanks to strong advocacy by the Board of Supervisors, state lawmakers strengthened the laws on the books against those who would participate in the exploitation and rape of young children. While I am encouraged, I believe we can go much further in holding these low-lives accountable; one of the most effective ways to strike against child sex trafficking is to embark on a “Shame” campaign. The public at large should know about any individuals arrested for soliciting a prostitute and/or purchasing a minor for sex. Displaying photographs of the so-called “johns” on the internet, on billboards and other public places should create a large disincentive to participate in this sickening endeavor.

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MOTION

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that County Counsel, working in collaboration with the District Attorney, draft a County ordinance and develop a plan that would provide for the publication of the names of individuals convicted of soliciting prostitution within the County of Los Angeles, with particular emphasis on individuals that solicit minors who are victims of child sex trafficking, and report back in 45 days.

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